

## STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

August 12, 2014

Connecticut State Department of Education

[CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov](mailto:CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov)

860-713-6860

### CMT/CAPT NEWS

#### Public Release for CMT/CAPT Science Results and Mathematics, Reading and Writing Results

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) will publicly release the 2014 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) results through [www.ctreports.com](http://www.ctreports.com) at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 2014. These results remain under embargo until 11:00 a.m. tomorrow, at which time the embargo will be lifted.

The embargoed CMT and CAPT results are made available for districts as a courtesy before results are made public. It is critical that districts do not make embargoed results public before the scheduled CSDE announcement. Releasing results prior to the lift of the embargo jeopardizes your district's access to future embargoed releases.

Questions may be directed to Dr. Dianna Roberge-Wentzell via telephone at 860-713-6753 or via e-mail at [dianna.roberge-wentzell@ct.gov](mailto:dianna.roberge-wentzell@ct.gov).



### SMARTER BALANCED NEWS

#### Recruitment for Online Panel for Achievement Level Setting

Smarter Balanced is recruiting K-12 educators, post-secondary educators, school administrators, parents, and community/business leaders to participate in the Online Panel for recommending achievement levels for the assessments. The achievement level setting process is a critical next step in developing an assessment system based on challenging, yet fair, expectations for students. The Online Panel (October 6–17) phase of achievement level setting provides an opportunity for up to a quarter of a million K–12 educators and other interested parties to participate in recommending achievement levels. To register for the Online Panel, please visit [www.smarterbalanced.org/onlinepanel](http://www.smarterbalanced.org/onlinepanel). For more information, read and share the [Smarter Balanced Online Panel opportunity letter](#).

### TECHNOLOGY NEWS

#### EducationSuperHighway Initiative

Connecticut school districts have an opportunity to receive free internet access and network upgrade support from technical and procurement experts at the nonprofit EducationSuperHighway. This program is offered completely free of charge. Participants will receive personalized project support from an EducationSuperHighway coach that can identify new solutions that meet your district's unique goals, provide technical/procurement guidance to get the right tools and staff at reasonable costs, and build capacity for future upgrades. To apply, please complete a brief [application](#). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, so make sure to apply early to secure your spot.

For more information, please read through the program [overview](#). Please e-mail questions to [districts@educationsuperhighway.org](mailto:districts@educationsuperhighway.org).



# STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

August 12, 2014

reminder

## TRAINING NEWS

### 2014-15 Required Training for Connecticut Alternate Assessments

All special education teachers with a primary responsibility for assessing students with significant cognitive disabilities are required to receive training by the CSDE. The Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA) also referred to as NCSC, and the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science require participation in one of two options prior to March 1, 2015.

All teachers responsible for administering these alternate assessments, including those teachers with current Skills Checklist Administration certifications, must participate in one of two types of CSDE training. The CTAA/NCSC is replacing the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist in English language arts and mathematics for the 2015 administration. Access additional information at <http://ctserc.org/ctaa>.

reminder

### 2014-15 Smarter Balanced Usability Accessibility & Accommodations Training

The CSDE continues to prepare teachers to administer the Smarter Balanced Assessments for English language arts/literacy and mathematics to all students in Grades 3-8 and 11 in the spring of 2015. One component of the Smarter Balanced Assessment system includes understanding, selecting, and providing access to the assessment. To assist administrators and all teachers working with general education students, students with disabilities, and students who are English learners, two types of optional professional learning opportunities have been created. Additional information can be accessed at <http://ctserc.org/SmarterBalancedUAA>.

reminder

### Achieve: Student Assessment Inventory for School Districts Webinar

In this webinar, scheduled for September 11 at 3 p.m., Achieve will share a new tool, the Student Assessment Inventory for School Districts. The inventory tool is designed to guide district administrators and instructional leaders through a process to ensure the minimum number of tests are administered to provide essential instructional, diagnostic, and accountability information. This tool is designed to provide an opportunity for district leaders to take stock of district assessments and make decisions based on the findings. More information about the webinar will be forthcoming.

## OTHER NEWS

### CCSSO Launches CCSS Forward and Hosts Webinar on Communicating about Assessments

The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) launched a new section of their Web site, [CCSS Forward](#). As states continue to collaborate on the development of tools to successfully implement the Common Core, CCSS Forward will focus on highlighting those resources. To learn more about CCSS Forward, and to hear ideas from states that have been working aggressively to communicate about Smarter Balanced and PARCC, listen to the [webinar](#) that CCSSO held on "SEA Strategies for Communicating with Parents about the New Assessments."

